

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 OMB-01 CU-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 NIC-01 DRC-01 /120 W

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R 181000Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0939

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 5171

FOL CALCUTTA TEL RPTD FYI

QUOTE

R 170945Z APR 74

FM AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

TO RUSBAE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 9244

INFO RUSBAY/AMCONSUL BOMBAY 2082

RUSBAS/AMCONSUL MADRAS 2000

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CALCUTTA 0739

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, IN, US

SUBJ: US INVOLVEMENT IN CONGRESS AFFAIRS: MINISTER'S
COMMENTS

REF: BOMBAY 084

1. UNION MINISTER OF COMMERCE D. P. CHATTOPADHYAY, LEADER OF PRO-CPI WING OF WEST BENGAL CONGRESS PARTY AND GURU OF THE DAS MUNSHI/SUBRATA MUKHERJEE WING OF THE WEST BENGAL CONGRESS YOUTH MOVEMENT, SAID IN AN INTERVIEW IN CALCUTTA APRIL 14 (ACCORDING TO THE CONGRESS-SUPPORTING, BENGALI-LANGUAGE DAILY JUGANTAR OF APRIL 15), THAT THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF EITHER AMERICAN OR SOVIET INVOLVEMENT IN THE INTRA-PARTY FEUDING IN WEST BENGAL.

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2. CHATTOPADHYAY IS QUOTED AS SAYING, "I THINK THERE IS NO AMERICAN LOBBY WITH MY OPPONENTS IN THE PARTY. THERE IS BOUND TO BE DIFFERENCES IN OPINION IN SO BIG A PARTY AS THE CONGRESS, BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT FOREIGN LOBBIES ARE ACTIVE WITHIN THE PARTY. I MIGHT THINK LIKE THE CPI IN CERTAIN CASES BUT THAT DOES NOT MEAN THAT I AM A CPI MAN. LIKEWISE IF SOME PEOPLE IN THE PARTY THINK LIKE CERTAIN AMERICANS, IT WON'T BE PROPER TO THINK OR SAY THAT THEY BELONG TO THE AMERICAN LOBBY."

3. COMMENT: WE CONSIDER THIS AN IMPORTANT STATEMENT FROM CHATTOPADHYAY. WE WILL WAIT TO SEE IF IT AFFECTS FUTURE COMMENTS BY WEST BENGAL YOUTH LEADERS AGAINST AMERICAN (SPECIFICALLY BURLEIGH) INVOLVEMENT IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. THE BLITZ ARTICLE (REFTEL) IS INTERESTING, ALTHOUGH AS BOMBAY POINTS OUT, TORTURED. BECAUSE IT STRESSED THEME OF AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT IN CONGRESS FACTIONALISM IN WEST BENGAL, CHATTOPADHYAS'S COMMENTS ARE ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT.
PICKERING
UNQUOTE
MOYNIHAN

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